

Message Text

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SUBJECT: WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE (P.3) APRIL 2, 1974

WASHINGTON POST HAS ARTICLE WHICH BOUND TO RAISE SPECULATION
RE CUBA. TEXT FOLLOWS.

QUOTE. "KISSINGER FINDS TIME FOR WORK" BY MARLISE SIMONS

DESPITE A HONEYMOON AND A SWELLING SOCIAL SCHEDULE AROUND
ACAPULCO BAY, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER IS STILL
FINDING TIME FOR A BIT OF QUIET DIPLOMACY.

ALTHOUGH KISSINGER IS TRAVELING ONLY WITH HIS BRIDE OF TWO
DAYS, NANCY MAGINNES, RATHER THAN THE USUAL STAFF, THE
FIRST DIPLOMATIC POUCH HAS ARRIVED FROM WASHINGTON AND A
MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL SAID THERE 'WILL PROBABLY
BE ONE EVERY DAY FOR THE REST OF THIS WEEK.'

MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER EMILIO O. RABASA ALSO FLEW-INTO
ACAPULCO LAST NIGHT REPORTEDLY TO VISIT KISSINGER HERE
BECAUSE THEY ARE 'OLD FRIENDS.'

BUT ONLY YESTERDAY AFTERNOON RABASA HAD ENDED A FOUR-DAY
VISIT TO CUBA WHERE HE CONFERRED WITH PRIME MINISTER FIDEL
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CASTRO AND OTHER CUBAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

THIS HAS LED TO SPECULATION HERE THAT RABASA MAY BE ACTING
AS A U.S.-CUBAN GO-BETWEEN.

IN 1964 MEXICO WAS THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF
AMERICAN STATES TO RESIST U.S. PRESSURE TO BREAK RELATIONS
WITH CASTRO'S SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT. AND ALTHOUGH MEXICAN-
CUBAN RELATIONS HAVE SINCE THEN BEEN MORE OF FORM THAN OF
CONTENT, THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVER-
RIA HAS MADE DECIDED EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH
HAVANA.

RABASA, IN FACT, IS THE FIRST MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO
VISIT CUBA IN THE LAST 30 YEARS. HENCE DIPLOMATIC OBSER-
VERS BELIEVE THAT NEITHER THE MEXICAN PRESIDENT'S POSSIBLE
FUTURE VISIT TO HAVANA, NOR RABASA'S MISSION TO INAUGURATE
A SCHOOL IN CUBA, WAS THE TRUE EXPLANATION FOR HIS SUDDEN
CALL ON THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT.

INSTEAD, DIPLOMATS HERE BELIEVE HE WENT TO HAVANA TO DIS-
CUSS CUBA'S REENTRY INTO THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMUNITY.
CUBA'S RETURN IS EXPECTED TO BE ONE OF THE MAIN TOPICS
LATER THIS MONTH IN ATLANTA WHEN LATIN AMERICA'S FOREIGN
MINISTERS AND KISSINGER WILL MEET AGAIN.

TONIGHT WAS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE
POLITICKING WHEN THE RABASAS GIVE A DINNER IN HONOR OF
THE KISSINGERS.

THIS AFTERNOON THE HONEYMOONERS LUNCED AT THE FAMOUS
GUINNESS MANSION. UNQUOTE.

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